

Message Text

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16

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

OMB-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 /157 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9559

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5498

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, AS, JA, UN

SUBJECT: UNCURK COMMITTEE MEETING

1. UNCURK COMMITTEE MET AUGUST 16. AUSTRALIAN ACTING REP STEELE TOLD US THAT MAJOR ITEMS COVERED WERE AUGUST 8-9 STRATEGY SESSION IN NEW YORK, QUESTION OF TERMINATION RECOMMENDATION IN ANNUAL REPORT, AND KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE.

2. AUGUST 8-9 NEW YORK STRATEGY SESSION: STEELE SAID THAT HE WAS ASKED BY OTHER UNCURK MEMBERS TO EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED IN NEW YORK IN ROK MEETING WITH ITS FOUR ALLIES. STEELE MADE VERY GENERAL COMMENTS EMPHASIZING THAT DISCUSSION RANGED OVER MANY TOPICS, INCLUDED UNGA TACTICS AND UNC. STEELE HOPES HE SMOOTHED ANY RUFFLED FEATHERS AMONG OTHER UNCURK MEMBERS BY EMPHASIZING DISCUSSION RE UNCURK HAD BEEN ONLY ONE FAIRLY SMALL PART OF DISCUSSIONS.

3. UNCURK RECOMMENDATION RE TERMINATION: STEELE SAID THAT COMMITTEE MEMBER HAD ANOTHER INCONCLUSIVE EXCHANGE ON THIS SUBJECT. STEELE TOLD OTHER MEMBERS
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THAT BOTH U.S. AND ROKG ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT AUSTRALIAN

APPROACH RE COMMISSION TERMINATION. HOWEVER, OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT INSISTED THAT THEY MUST GET CLEAR SIGNAL FROM ROKG BEFORE PROCEEDING. CONSEQUENTLY COMMITTEE DECIDED TO REQUEST MEETING WITH FONMIN KIM SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN TO GET DEFINITIVE STATEMENT OF THE ROKG POSITION RE TERMINATION. ACCORDING STEELE PHILIPPINE REP IS STILL RELUCTANT TO RECOMMEND TERMINATION. THAI AND TURKISH REPS AGREED IN GENERAL TERMS WITH AUSTRALIAN APPROACH BUT WANT REVISIONS IN TEXT OF AUSTRALIAN DRAFT OF CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS.

4. KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE: STEELE INDICATED THAT UNCURK STAFF MEMBER BROUGHT UP QUESTION OF WHETHER COMMISSION SHOULD ADDRESS ITSELF TO KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN QUICKLY TURNED OFF DISCUSSION BY INDICATING THAT CASE WAS STILL TOO UNCLEAR AND THAT PERHAPS FULL COMMISSION MIGHT CONSIDER IT WHEN IT MEETS AUGUST 29-30. STEELE SAID THAT, IN FACT, NONE OF UNCURK MEMBERS WANT TO ADDRESS THEMSELVES TO THE KIM TAE-CHUNG CASE UNLESS EVENTS MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR COMMISSION TO IGNORE THE MATTER. UNCURK PRINCIPAL SECRETARY OZBUDUN INFORMED UNCURK MEMBERS THAT IN A "PERSONAL CAPACITY" HE AND HIS KOREAN BORN WIFE HAD VISITED KIM TAE-CHUNG ON AUGUST 15. OZBUDUN TOLD MEMBERS HE WAS CAREFUL NOT TO DISCUSS SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS OR GIVE IMPRESSION HE WAS ACTING ON BEHALF COMMISSION.

5. COMMENT: AS INDICATED PARA 2 ABOVE, UNCURK HAS NOT MADE FINAL DECISION ON EITHER INCLUSION OF TERMINATION RECOMMENDATION OR ON TEXT OF ANY SUCH RECOMMENDATION. REASON FOR DELAY HAS BEEN MOFA'S DELIBERATE EFFORTS TO OBSCURE ITS INTENTIONS ON UNCURK TERMINATION IN DISCUSSIONS WITH UNCURK MEMBERS OTHER THAN AUSTRALIANS. TO AVOID PREMATURELY TIPPING ITS HAND ON UNCURK, MOFA HAS NOT GIVEN CLEAR SIGNAL TO UNCROK AS TO WHAT IT WANTS DONE.

6. FONMIN KIM RETURNING AUGUST 17. AMBASSADOR WILL TAKE EARLY OCCASION TO PRESS HIM TO CLEARLY INFORM UNCURK MEMBERS THAT ROKG DESIRES EXPLICIT UNCURK CONFIDENTIAL

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RECOMMENDATION RE ITS TERMINATION, AND THAT AUSTRALIAN DRAFT IS ACCEPTABLE.
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